

**For Immediate Release
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To: Media

Chief Ron H. Clark

Coeur d'Alene Police Department

Protecting and serving with excellence

Coeur d'Alene is the host to numerous outdoor events during the summer months. Many of the planned activities take place in the city parks. Every year animal control officers deal with complaints of citizens bringing their dogs to the parks.

The 4th of July celebration in the park brings about the largest number of complaints. The park rules are clearly marked in several locations in the park. Many citizens attempt to bring their dog to the park and have them sit on a blanket with their leash tied to a picnic table for the day. Or they attempt to keep the dog in a portable kennel on the grassy area. This is not allowed and dog owners could receive a citation.

Citizens are reminded that dogs are not allowed in any City Parks with the exception of Tubbs Hill. Allowances have been made for users of the Centennial Trail in which dogs are allowed on the concrete portion of the Coeur d'Alene City Park. Softball, Baseball, and Soccer fields are not an exception. Owners are not allowed to bring their dogs to the playing fields. Residents who live in the area of City parks are not allowed to let their dogs use the park as an area for excrement.

Fireworks frighten animals and dogs tend to break out of their confined yard and run loose. They can become agitated and act with aggression toward any strangers that approach them. Owners are asked to keep their dogs and cats inside in a safe, quiet location to reduce the stress on the animals.

Coeur d'Alene Reserve Officers and Animal Control will be writing citations for dogs in the park, dogs off their leash, and the failure of owners to pick up their dogs excrement.

Dogs must be maintained on a leash no longer than ten feet in length and the leash must be of sufficient strength to restrain the animal. The animal must be in the control of a person of sufficient age and they must have the physical ability to restrain and control such animal.

The ordinances will be strictly enforced. A citation issued by a police officer for violation of the dog ordinances is a misdemeanor. Citizens are reminded to obey City Ordinances for dogs, and be responsible pet owners.

**Sergeant Christie Wood
Public Information Officer
Coeur d'Alene Police Department**